

DONYATT DESPATCH

AUGUST 2024 - DUCK RACE SUPPLEMENT



Sunday 14th July, saw the long awaited return of the Donyatt Duck Race, which like so many other things, was paused due to the pandemic.

We were blessed with a warm and largely sunny day and a great attendance. As usual, there were games, a barbecue and refreshment tent offering cakes and hot and cold drinks, beers and Pimms.

There was a 'cafe' area to sit and enjoy the refreshments, which was very popular, especially between races.



This year, village resident Tony Fisher filmed the Duck Race using a drone, from which he kindly extracted some stills to be included here. This gives an interesting new perspective on this special village event. Thank you Tony.



As ever, the skittles proved a popular diversion between races, as did Splat the Rat and other games. The Name The Soft toy also attracted plenty of custom. This time, the Soft Toy was a sloth and was eventually won by Katy Gow who had chosen the winning name of Valaska.

Happily most of the ducks were sold, so the races were well contested and there was great interest from the crowd, as the races were run.



Picture Right: Plenty of interest as the ducks raced down a fast course, with people cheering on their ducks.



Our valiant 'duck herders' Becky and Dan made sure none of the ducks got stuck in vegetation and our 'duck fielders' Donna and Mike, caught the determined racers at the finish line.



Our MC for the day was Phil King, our village hall Secretary, who did a splendid job in whipping up excitement during each race and announcing the happy winners. Many thanks to Phil for playing an active role in organising and running this special event.

There are a lot of thank yous to make to all those that contributed to making this event a great success.

Firstly, very special thanks to the householders of the riverside properties, who allowed the event to take place in their beautiful gardens:

Annette & Richard, Jenny & Alan and Gaynor & Malcolm.

A big thank you to volunteers who put in much time and effort to organise and run this event. Many thanks to those who ran the Refreshments, the Bar, the BBQ and the games and to the intrepid water babies who herded and caught the ducks as they raced down the river. Last but not least, thank you to everyone who attended, bought ducks and refreshments or took part in the games.

The funds raised by the Duck Race are split between our four village charities, to help keep them viable for the benefit of Donyatt residents. This year we raised £1810, which will be a good boost for them all.

DUCK RACE WINNERS

Heat 1

1st - 193 - Alan Stroud
2nd - 42 - Trisha Hands
3rd - 147 - Victoria Clark

Heat 2

1st - 933 - Mollie Chalon
2nd - 639 - Karen Thresher
3rd - 861 - Sara Wildman

Final

1st - 492 - Sandra Gould
2nd - 1017 - Paul Kolin
3rd - 839 - Joel Hodges

SKITTLES

Adults - Dean Gould

Juniors - Archie Hammond